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SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR 19 March 1953

SUBJECT 1952 Nickel Wire Screen Production
in East Germany

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DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. [redacted] production of 75,000 square meters of nickel wire screen No. 231 by the Tewa enterprises in Neustadt and Graefenthal was completed between January and August 1952. The following is the production breakdown:

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January through March 1952	31,978.64 square meters
April	11,191.33 " "
May	11,696.19 " "
June	7,101.74 " "
July	9,764.70 " "
August	3,042.61 " "

Production of nickel screen from January through August 1952 totalled 74,775 square meters. The remaining 225 square meters were produced in November 1952 when Tewa was fulfilling a new order for nickel wire screen.

2. In August 1952 Tewa received order [redacted] to produce 27,000 square meters of nickel wire screen No. 231 during the second half of 1952. At the same time the Baderschneider und Lenzner firm in Zeulenroda received order [redacted] for 6,000 square meters of nickel wire screen during the same period. Following is the breakdown of Tewa production:

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August 1952	4,559.51 square meters
September 1952	6,775.34 square meters
October 1952	7,675.83 square meters
November 1952	4,306.31 square meters

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Tewa production of nickel wire screen from August through November 1952 totalled 23,316.99 square meters. During the same period Baderschneider und Lenzner produced the 6,000 square meters ordered and an extra 3,811.78 square meters. Thus total production of nickel wire screen No. 231 by the two concerns amounted to 27,128.77 square meters. By the end of December 1952 the entire amount had been delivered to the Russians with the exception of about 1,200 square meters which Tewa will deliver later. Of the roughly 23,000 square meters produced by Tewa during the second half of 1952, six to eight percent was reject material which was, however, accepted by the Russians.

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3. On 15 December 1952 shipment of the last part of nickel wire screen produced [redacted] with the exception of the above mentioned 1,200 square meters, was supervised by (fnu) Stesnov, a Russian. This shipment also included 71.11 square meters of nickel wire screen No. 400 (22,000 meshes) also produced on Russian order. About six square meters of this kind of screen was rejected by the Russians.
4. The following is the breakdown of production by the Tewa reed plant during 1952:
 - January : 41 reeds No. 231 (12 with a width of 1.20 meters, the others 1.00 meter);
 - February: 45 reeds No. 231 (11 with 1.20 width);
 - March : 49 reeds No. 231 (15 with 1.20 width) and 1 reed DIN 5;
 - April : 49 reeds No. 231 (12 with 1.20 width) and 1 reed DIN 8;
 - May : 50 reeds No. 231 (17 with 1.20 width);
 - June : 36 reeds No. 231 (3 with 1.20 width);
 - July : 27 reeds No. 231 (1 with 1.20 width) and 4 reeds No. 270;
 - August : 8 reeds No. 231 (3 with 1.20 width);
 - September: 22 reeds No. 231 and 2 reeds DIN 80, 2 reeds DIN 100, 1 reed DIN 70, 2 reeds No. 190 and 1 reed No. 200;
 - October : 12 reeds No. 231 and 15 reeds of other sizes;
 - November: 33 reeds of various sizes; no No. 231 reed;
 - 1 through 25 December : 8 reeds DIN 60, 6 reeds DIN 80, 1 reed No. 240, 1 reed No. 260, 3 reeds No. 120. To be finished by the end of December: 1 reed No. 400, 2 reeds No. 350.
5. Russian band steel for the manufacture of reeds No. 231 was last delivered in April 1952. Supplies of Russian band steel in the Tewa reed plant are exhausted with the exception of about 100 kilograms of 0.055 millimeter thickness.
6. The Vogel firm in Koepenick discontinued deliveries of nickel wire in October 1952. The last delivery of nickel wire from SAG Marten in Hettstedt arrived at the end of November 1952. There are no supplies of wire left at Tewa with the exception of 110 kilograms of reject wire which did not pass the acid test.
7. There are about 13,000 square meters of reject screen at Tewa at a value of about one million DME. The screen was rejected because some failed to pass the acid test and some had weaving mistakes. The Russians promised to accept this reject screen, too, but so far have not fulfilled this promise.
8. As yet it is not known whether Tewa is to continue to produce nickel wire screen for the Russians. In mid-December 1952, Stesnov said he was not informed about the continuation of the production program. He expressed the belief that screen would continue to be produced but, possibly, that it would no longer be for Russia but for East Germany. He did not elaborate nor did he indicate the basis for his statement. There are rumors among Tewa personnel that nickel wire screen produced for the Russians will not be continued in 1953 because it will now be produced in the USSR. These rumors, which also circulated in August 1952 after the first order of 1952 was finished, cannot be substantiated by evidence. After completion of the first 1952 order, 40 weavers left Tewa/Neustadt voluntarily because they thought that production would be strictly curtailed. Twenty-eight were given notice by the firm as of 1 January 1953. So far there have been no indications that the strength of the staff, which totals about 500, including administrative personnel, will be seriously reduced. The possible stoppage of the Russian nickel wire production program may be indicated by the fact that all four SCC acceptance technicians left Tewa/Neustadt at the beginning of December 1952. Alfred Mueller went to ERM Dampfkesselbau in Gera; Fritz Ewald was transferred to Gotha, Viktor Hoth to Magdeburg and Rolf Dreyden to an unknown destination.

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9. During the latter part of 1952 Tewa/Neustadt, in addition to producing nickel wire screen for the Russians, produced small lots of phosphor bronze screen for DHZ Leipzig. The largest quantity produced was 2,500 square meters (one meter width) of phosphor bronze screen No. 190. In December 1952 Tewa produced 400 square meters of phosphor bronze screen No. 350. Also in the latter part of 1952 Tewa produced 250 square meters of nickel screen No. 250 for Kunstseide Firma.
10. In December 1952 [redacted] a larger order for the production of phosphor bronze screen DIN 80, DIN 60 and DIN 40 was announced, but the order was not definitely placed. [redacted] Tewa is to produce lots of more than 10,000 square meters of each of the three indicated sizes during 1953. Although ultimate confirmation of this order has not yet been received, the phosphor bronze wire has already been delivered to Tewa.
11. Steasnov has continued to act as chief Russian supervisor of Tewa nickel wire screen production. (Fnu) Ukhanov of the Reparations Department in Erfurt ceased to appear at Tewa during the summer of 1952; he was replaced by (fnu) Bondarenko, who visited Tewa/Neustadt almost daily as long as nickel wire production continued. Palilov has not been succeeded by another Russian; his functions were taken over by Steasnov. In September 1952, the chief of the Reparations Department in Erfurt, (fnu) Bayandurov, appeared at Tewa/Neustadt for the last time. He then presumably returned to Russia and was replaced by another unidentified Russian, who has since visited Tewa/Neustadt once.

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